

Yemeni minister sees end to Arab rift

ABU DHABI (AFP) — A rift among Arab states caused by the Gulf war will end soon, Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammad Bassandawa has predicted. Mr. Bassandawa made the comments in a magazine interview after meeting Saudi King Fahd during an official visit to Saudi Arabia last week. "What have heard from King Fahd made me optimistic that the coming stage will see great improvement in Yemeni-Saudi relations in particular and inter-Arab relations in general," Mr. Bassandawa told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) weekly magazine Al Shurug in an interview published Wednesday. Mr. Bassandawa said the Saudi king told him "what has happened among members of a family" and that "we all should not look back at the past but look at the present and the future and realize that our strength lies in our solidarity and unity." Mr. Bassandawa said the "ball is in Kuwait's court" to restore relations after Kuwait snubbed recent Yemeni overtures. Mr. Bassandawa's visit to Saudi Arabia and a previous trip to Bahrain were part of a Yemeni bid to mend fences with Gulf cooperation council nations — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and the UAE.

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جريدة تأثير يومية مطبوعة باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية الرسمية

Israelis raze Lebanese villages

More killed, hundreds of thousands displaced in savage attacks

Combined agency dispatches



Smoke from Israeli bombardments Tuesday billows behind houses in Nabatiyeh in South Lebanon (AFP)

Christopher cuts short Asian visit, but Mideast mission to go ahead

Clinton praises Syria; blames Iran for flare-up

Combined agency dispatches

SECRETARY OF STATE Warren Christopher cut short his visit to Asia Tuesday to return to Washington and confer on escalating violence in the Middle East before heading there next weekend as previously planned.

"I think they clearly instigated this. Hezbollah has the backing of the Iranian government and they are enemies of the peace process," White House spokesman Dee Dee Myers said.

Ms. Myers lashed out at Tehran and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah in Lebanon after President Bill Clinton praised Syria for what he called "commendable restraint" in the face of the clashes in southern Lebanon.

"I think this administration — the president, Secretary Christopher and others — are committed to not letting enemies of the peace process disrupt or dismantle it in any way," she said.

The White House Tuesday accused Iran and Hezbollah of trying to torpedo Middle East peace talks by picking a fight with

Israeli forces in southern Lebanon.

"I hope not. I certainly have no reason to believe it is. But obviously I'm concerned about it."

Asked during a meeting at the White House if the rise in violence in Lebanon would endanger the peace process, Mr. Clinton said, "I hope not. I certainly have no reason to believe it is. But obviously I'm concerned about it."

Mr. Clinton said Mr. Christopher would return to Washington from the Far East before going to the Middle East because he wants to talk to him about the Middle East before he goes there."

Mr. Clinton said, "I think the Syrians have shown commendable restraint."

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Palestinians sceptical, page 10

Israel walks on tightrope, page 2

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Israel faces Hezbollah; assault to last 2 weeks, page 2

Regent, Hassan II condemn attacks

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and King Hassan II of Morocco Tuesday exchanged views on the situation in Lebanon and the new Israeli attacks against it. In a telephone conversation, the two condemned the attacks, with King Hassan expressing his regret over the current Arab situation.

Decree approves ties with Bosnia

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday approving a Cabinet decision to establish diplomatic relations between Jordan and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Jordan's ambassador to Austria will serve as non-resident ambassador to the republic.

3 U.N. soldiers wounded in air strike

TYRE, Lebanon (AFP) — Three Nepalese U.N. peacekeeping soldiers were injured Tuesday in an Israeli helicopter strike on South Lebanon, security sources said. The soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) were injured as an Israeli helicopter hit a Nepalese U.N. position in the village of Henniyeh, near the port city of Tyre, they said.

Armenia denies links with Turkish Kurds

MOSCOW (AFP) — Armenia Tuesday denied allegations that it had links with Kurdish separatists in Turkey and accused Ankara government officials of attempting to stir anti-Armenian feelings. ITAR-TASS reported. In a note of protest, the Armenian foreign ministry said the rebel Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) had no representation in Yerevan, contrary to allegations made by Turkish Interior Minister Melih Gaziroglu and the governor of the Turkish district under a state of emergency.

Majali, citing loopholes in Election Law, says there is a need to change it

Prime minister speaks of Israeli readiness to withdraw from occupied Jordanian land and restore Kingdom's water rights

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In the strongest indication yet that the Majali government is moving towards introducing electoral changes, the prime minister Tuesday cited loopholes in the current Election Law, saying "there is a need to change it."

Dr. Abdul Salam Majali was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as telling a group of Salt notables that there is a need to amend the law "since it has many gaps in it."

"If the change aims at ensuring further democratic gains, no one should object to the changes," Dr. Majali was quoted as saying.

Noting that His Majesty King Hussein has called for a national dialogue on the issue, however, Dr. Majali said that "such a dialogue is now going on in the media and the press."

But he added that "Nothing can be imposed anyone if the changes do not serve public interest."

Referring to the peace process, the prime minister said the fundamental achievements of the Arab-Israeli negotiations have so far included "an Israeli recognition of (Jordan's) 1948 international borders and of the need to return the 350 square kilometres of (Jordanian territory) occupied by Israel."

He said other achievements included an Israeli recognition of the need to settle the Palestinian refugees problem and "return our rights in the waters of the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers." The prime minister did not elaborate on his statement.

"As far as the Palestinian track (of the negotiations) is con-

cerned, much has been achieved but I leave it to (the Palestinians) to accounce what was achieved in the suitable time and way for them," said the prime minister.

He said that since security and peace cannot be achieved without the settlement of the Palestinian issue, the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Arabs and Israelis have opted to embark on the peace process starting in Madrid.

"The Arabs had to interact with world developments, and the Jordanians and the Palestinians have jointly set up a delegation determined never to give up any right," the premier said.

He said that in spite of the obstacles placed by the Israeli governments, Jordan has been

emerged as the sole superpower, having found that its interests lie in establishing security and peace in the Middle East region," Dr. Majali said.

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He said that in spite of the obstacles placed by the Israeli governments, Jordan has been

demanding the implementation of U.N. resolutions and the exchange of land for peace.

He said political parties which had failed in the past to serve the society now have the opportunity to benefit from the earlier experiments and to pursue a path that can best ensure the national interest.

Referring to the economic situation in Jordan, Dr. Majali said that the Gulf crisis had had heavy consequences on the Kingdom. He said among the difficulties were the continuing harassment of international shipping and the interception and search of all Aqaba-bound vessels. This

(Continued on page 10)

Arabs voice outrage

Combined agency dispatches

ARABS expressed outrage Tuesday at the bombardment of Lebanon, accusing Israel of wanting to scuttle the peace process and shift the agenda of this week's mission by the U.S. secretary of state.

Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt and Iraq were among a host of Arab and Muslim countries to condemn Israel's aggression in northern Lebanon and call for international intervention to halt the bombardment.

The Israeli attack was "jeopardizing the peace process," the Syrian government said.

Syrian radio said that the Israeli attacks were aimed at "provoking a violent Syrian reaction, sowing discord and shifting the agenda of (U.S. Secretary of State) Warren Christopher's visit."

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri had talks with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam in Damascus Tuesday, officials said.

They gave no details about the talks.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) warned the Israeli action would have "destructive consequences" on the peace process.

Quoted in Tunis by the Palestinian news agency WAFA, a PLO spokesman said the Israeli bombardments "open the way for an escalation of violence" and called for a high-level Arab summit to mobilize support for Lebanon.

Egypt said it had asked Israel to stop the attacks immediately and urged both Israelis and Arabs to hold negotiations on various issues. (see story below)

"When we talk about Lebanonization and see the few past years and the optimism that started with the reconstruction process (in Lebanon), we see these hopes shattered by this widespread aggression," he said.

Prince Hassan expressed his belief that this concern preoccupies every Arab and every Muslim within this context.

"I would like to reiterate what I said in the presence of the Turkish foreign minister, (Hikmet Cetin, on Monday), that the situation will not last, and it cannot be a sound basis for stability and peace. Violence always breeds violence," he added.

In reply to a question on His Majesty King Hussein's visits to France and Turkey this week and next week, Prince Hassan said it was imperative to convey to the world the importance of Jordan and its political and geographic role.

"The Kingdom has a central and vital role in this region of the world and the best who can do such a mission is His Majesty the King during his contacts in France and Turkey," he said.

(Continued on page 10)



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday confers with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz (center). Iraqi Ambassador Ibrahim Noori Alawayyes is at left (Photo by Boghos)

Regent expresses alarm over Lebanon situation

King's visits to France, Turkey highly important

Majali, House denounce Israeli assault

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday expressed alarm and concern over the deteriorating situation in Lebanon in the wake of repeated Israeli attacks on that country.

The Regent, talking to reporters after a meeting with visiting Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz, said there was a great fear that the stability of the Middle East could be shattered and that the region could be torn apart and racially and ethnically Balkanized.

"When we talk about Lebanonization and see the few past years and the optimism that started with the reconstruction process (in Lebanon), we see these hopes shattered by this widespread aggression," he said.

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(Continued on page 10)

were provocation that impedes the peace process.

"Everytime there is a move to stimulate the peace process, everytime a minister visits the region on the eve of the resumption of the peace talks, Israel creates a new provocation. Dr. Majali said, "It is not the first time when Israel resorts to poisoning the atmosphere of the peace negotiations."

"This atmosphere is not conducive to peace, and does not prompt one to speak about peace while people, especially civilians, get killed," he added.

"Israel claims that it has been exposed to attacks by certain factions in Lebanon but such aggression is disproportionate in magnitude to the alleged attacks," Dr. Majali added.

The Lower House of Parliament said in a statement that the Israeli actions were a cause for deep concern.

"The Jordanian Parliament strongly condemns this brutal aggression under the nose of the United Nations and those who brag about their keenness on defending the international legitimacy and human rights," the statement said.

"Southern Lebanon is an integral part of the Arab territories occupied by Israel for a long time, and its inhabitants have all the right to resist occupation and defend their country's sovereignty," it said.

"Past Israeli acts of aggression resulted only in more determination on the part of the resistance forces to liberate their occupied land," it said. "All such acts of aggression can by no means ensure security and peace for Israel, which should withdraw from all Lebanon lands in implementing

(Continued on page 10)

U.N. installs cameras in Iraq

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A U.N. team on Tuesday installed three out of six surveillance cameras at two Iraqi missile test sites and praised the Iraqi authorities for their cooperation.

Bill Eckert, leader of the team of three Americans, said the three cameras would not be activated pending talks on long-term monitoring of Iraq's post-war military potential at the United Nations in New York at the end of August or early September.

He refused to specify where the cameras were installed.

The six cameras were to be set up at the Yawm Al Azim and Rafah sites, around 60 kilometres south of Baghdad, as a final step in the interim solution to a crisis that threatened to unleash U.S. air strikes on Iraq earlier this month.

"Technical cooperation (with the Iraqis) on this job is really excellent," Mr. Eckert said.

He said the team still had "electric" work to do and he refused to indicate when the experts would be leaving Iraq.

"We still have questions that we are working on," he added on his return from the sites.

Meanwhile, Maurizio Zifferero, Italian head of a U.N. nuclear arms team in Iraq on a routine mission, said Iraq had

mic Energy Agency (IAEA), said he had received the assurances that the nuclear files would be open from Human Abdul Khalil Abdul Ghafuras, minister of higher education and scientific research.

"We told there were willingness on the Iraqi side to open and discuss these files. They asked us to be patient and wait for the start of the talks," Mr. Zifferero said.

"There is an expectation from our side that this promise will hold and that some of the most important information will be finally given," he added.

Mr. Zifferero said Iraq expected the talks with U.N. officials to "provide an adequate occasion to come forward with some kind of sign of goodwill."

"His team is to leave Iraq Wednesday.

During their stay the team visited four former nuclear sites of which Iraq is trying to use for other activities.

"We checked the drawings; he said and sought clarifications on "the type of activities which will be pursued" there.

The team also inspected the Taji industrial complex north of Baghdad, Mr. Zifferero said, adding that some of its production should be placed under surveillance.

Iraq hopes to show that it has complied with requirements so that it can resume exports of oil, now blocked under a U.N. trade embargo clamped after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1993

Israel faces stubborn force in Hezbollah

By Samia Nakhoul
Reuter

BEIRUT — Hezbollah fighters, driven by a Shi'ite Muslim zeal to fight Israel to the death, are proving to be ruthless and determined enemies.

The name "Hezbollah" comes from a phrase in the Koran — "The Party of God, they are victorious."

Inspired by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution in Iran, the group holds that Israel must cease to exist and Western influence curbed in Lebanon, which it would like to turn into an Iran-style Islamic state.

The burden of their ready-to-die zeal is now falling on the mainly Shi'ite Muslim villagers who live next to a South Lebanon buffer strip occupied by Israel.

Israeli planes and artillery are pounding the area in what Israeli press reports say is a deliberate effort to drive out the civilian inhabitants, who have long been among Lebanon's poorest and most down-trodden citizens and are a major source of Hezbollah recruits.

Israel hopes that a flood of refugees fleeing north will force Lebanon's pro-Syrian government to abandon its hands-off attitude to Hezbollah and Palestinian guerrillas and use its army to curb them.

Hezbollah, for its part, hopes to trigger massive retaliation that would sabotage Arab-Israeli peace talks, entangle the Jewish state in a costly and unpopular war and spell the end of Israeli occupation in the buffer zone.

It launched a wave of attacks against Israeli forces and their local ally, the South Lebanon Army, this month, killing eight Israeli soldiers.

Israel hit back by unleashing its heaviest air strikes on Lebanon since its 1982 invasion. At least 60 people — Lebanese civilians, Syrian soldiers, Palestinian and Hezbollah guerrillas and Israeli soldiers and civilians — were killed in the barrages which began on Sunday. More than 160 were wounded.

"We will continue resistance because the occupation of our land is a continued aggression that we can never accept... the aggressor must pull out so the problem ends," Sheikh Naim Kassem, Hezbollah's deputy secretary-general, said Monday.

"The problem will not end through the enemy's threats... Israeli intimidation will not achieve its goals in curbing the resistance," Sheikh Kassem added.

A Beirut radio quoted Sheikh Kassem as saying Hezbollah "is proud to cherish

the goal of sabotaging the Arab-Israeli peace talks."

Israeli leaders say the offensive was vital to discipline Hezbollah.

"We want to make unequivocally clear that if there is no quiet here, there will be no quiet for the residents of South Lebanon north of the security zone," Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said while touring the border strip Monday.

Saying it wants to protect its northern town from guerrilla raids Israel set up the 15-km-deep "security zone" in 1985 after pulling out the bulk of its 1982 invasion force.

Hezbollah emerged in Lebanon when 800 Iranian Revolutionary Guards moved to the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon in 1982 to fight the Israelis.

The Iranians concentrated on spreading Ayatollah Khomeini's doctrines.

Recruiting grounds were southern villages inhabited by Muslim Shi'ites, and Beirut slums to which many Shi'ites migrated during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Shi'ites have long been excluded from significant power in Lebanon but are approaching, or may already be, a majority of the country's people.

Their southern heartland has felt Israel's military blows for more than two decades.

When the blows were aimed at Palestinian guerrillas, the Shi'ites mostly suffered apolitical frustration.

But with the 1982 invasion, the Shi'ites began to strike back, tormenting the West and Israel with suicide bombings against Western interests, hostage-taking and assassinations.

Suicide truck bombings killed more than 60 people at the U.S. embassy in April 1983 and 241 U.S. servicemen and 58 French paratroopers of the multinational force in October that year.

Fundamentalist sources put the number of Hezbollah fighters at 3,000 and 10,000. The group, armed and financed by Iran, is run by a 12-man shura or advisory council.

Its spiritual mentor is Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, although he denies any direct role in running the group.

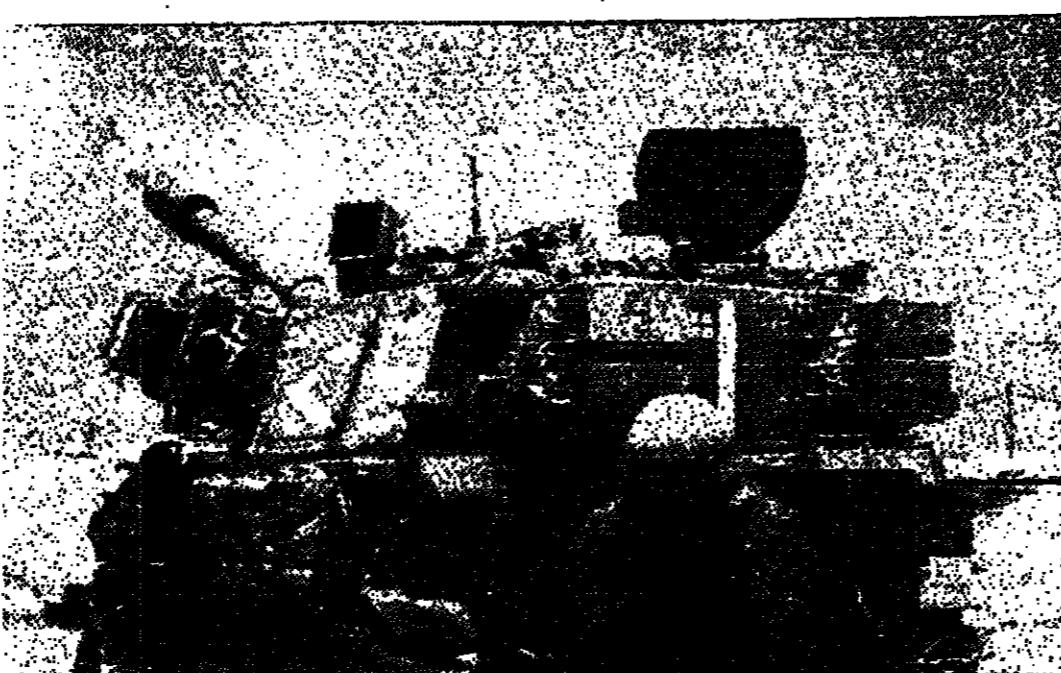
Among Middle East groups, Hezbollah is the one-most opposed to a U.S.-sponsored negotiation between Israel and the Arabs.

Hezbollah stepped up its raids on the Jewish state as the peace process began in October 1991, in the hope of sabotaging them by triggering massive Israeli retaliation.

But its strategy has not succeeded yet and the 2-month-old talks continue.

"The problem will not end through the enemy's threats... Israeli intimidation will not achieve its goals in curbing the resistance," Sheikh Kassem added.

A Beirut radio quoted Sheikh Kassem as saying Hezbollah "is proud to cherish



An Israeli soldier covers his ears Tuesday as artillery fire on villages in South Lebanon (AFP photo)

Israeli assault to last weeks

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's air and artillery assault on Hezbollah and Palestinian bases in Lebanon will go on for two weeks, official sources warned Tuesday, the third day of the operation.

The current phase of fighting should last at least one week, the sources said as the casualty toll of the assault rose to 47 dead with more than 160 wounded, mostly civilians.

"The whole operation will go on for two weeks and end up with a U.S. diplomatic initiative," the sources said.

The coordinator of Israeli activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, told Israel radio: "It will take time for the authorities in Beirut and Damascus, under the pressure of the exodus of people from southern Lebanon, to intervene and stop Hezbollah."

The cabinet met Monday night but decided for the time being not to send ground troops to follow up the biggest Israeli strike in Lebanon in a decade. The cabinet was to meet again Tuesday to assess the situation.

Two Israeli civilians and a soldier have been killed in retaliatory rocket attacks. An army spokesman said 25 civilians and five soldiers have also been wounded from a total of 160 Katyusha rockets.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who has called for restraint on all sides, cut short a South Asian visit Tuesday to return to Washington for consultations on the fighting.

He was still scheduled to arrive in Israel Sunday in a bid to push ahead the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace talks.

But Chief-of-Staff Ehud Barak has warned: "If the Lebanese

government is unable to impose its will on Hezbollah, the Israeli army will do it."

The U.N. Security Council was scheduled to debate later Tuesday the heaviest Israeli intervention in Lebanon for eight years after a call from the Beirut government.

Israel has told the council it was acting in "self-defense" after a sharp increase in attacks on northern Israel and its "security zone." Fifteen Israeli soldiers have been killed in the zone so far this year compared to 13 for the whole of 1992.

In Paris, the Israeli ambassador to France, Yehuda Lancry, said the Israeli military assault in Lebanon "has a very limited goal" and that "we are a long way from a war like the one of 1982."

He said the operations were intended "to restore everyday security."

"Israel has been the target of violent terrorist attacks in the past few weeks, which have resulted in the deaths of several Israeli soldiers," he said in an interview on France Info radio.

"Many places in northern Israel from Rosh-Hanikra on the coast to Metulla and Kiryat-Shemona in the east have been hit daily by surface-to-surface rockets, which have caused a lot of damage and sometimes many casualties."

"While being closely involved in the peace process, Israel cannot neglect its security in the north of the country, or the 150,000 Israeli citizens living on the border, because Hezbollah, the gravedigger of the peace process, wants it to fail and to kill as many Israelis as possible."

Demjanjuk was convicted and sentenced to death in April 1988 after five survivors of the Treblinka camp identified him as "Ivan," the brutal gas chamber operator who tortured and mutilated victims on their way to death. Some 850,000 people were killed in Treblinka in Nazi-occupied Poland in 1932-42.

Israel treads tightrope between war and peace

By Neil MacFarquhar
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — The line between scattered shelling and outright war can disintegrate quickly in the Middle East. With its largest attacks on targets in Lebanon in a decade, Israel walks perilously close to that line.

But by directing both verbal and steel barrages on an Islamic militia and not any neighbouring governments, it hopes to stop the deadly rocket attacks on its northern towns without jeopardizing upcoming peace talks shepherded by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The 18-month-old peace process has weathered major clashes before. But at some threshold — likely direct clashes between the Israeli and Syrian armies — the violence will push negotiators away from the table.

"Now it's small potatoes, yes, but all small potatoes in the Middle East can escalate

into something enormous and dangerous," said Major General Shlomo Gazit, former head of military intelligence.

Arab peace negotiators warned Monday that the peace talks, supposed to get a much-needed shot of adrenaline with Mr. Christopher's Aug. 1 arrival in the region, were in jeopardy.

But past threats that the talks were collapsing have proved hollow. Israeli officials seemed to count on previous experience that Arab public opinion angered by Israeli attacks was not strong enough to sway governments, and none appear interested in a war.

Israel invaded Lebanon, for example, with the ink barely dry on its peace treaty with Egypt and the treaty held.

The wild card is Lebanon's Hezbollah. The Party of God makes no secret of its desire to wreck the peace talks.

It is armed by Iran. It trains on territory in Lebanon where the Syrian army holds

sway. All those governments support its claim of the right to hit Israel because the Israeli army occupies a broad swath of southern Lebanon designed to stop cross-border attacks.

The murky lines of responsibility present Israel with its problem on how to stop attacks that killed seven soldiers in the past month.

"It must respond to deter attacks, but it knows that Hezbollah is deterred only by God," columnist Zvi Gilat wrote in the daily Yedioth Ahronot.

Guerillas responded to Sunday's air raids with an unprecedented rain of Katyusha rockets that killed 20 and wounded 24 Israelis over the past two days. Israel believes that heavy return shelling of villages in Lebanon and hints of escalation will push Beirut and, more importantly, Damascus to reign in Hezbollah.

"We should not underestimate the Syrian influence in Lebanon," Jacques Neriah, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's diplomatic adviser

said.

"There is some disquiet that things could roll into distant waters in far places."

Son visits Demjanjuk in cell

TEL AVIV (AP) — John Demjanjuk's son visited his father in prison Tuesday, two days before the supreme court was to rule whether the retired Ohio auto worker should hang as the Nazi camp guard "Ivan the terrible."

Demjanjuk's defense attorney, Yoram Sheftel, said Tuesday he was convinced his client would be set free.

Some legal experts believe that the new evidence raised during the appeal created enough questions about his identity to overturn the conviction.

One press report Tuesday quoted a Demjanjuk guard as saying the inmate was optimistic.

Israeli police, meanwhile, said they put the final touches on "operation justice" — Demjanjuk's maximum security transport Thursday morning from Ayalon prison in the town to Ramle to the high court in occupied Jerusalem, about 40 kilometers away.

Prison services spokesman Dr. Ben-Ami said officials were preparing for all possibilities, including that someone might want to harm Demjanjuk on his way to court.

The Yedioth Ahronoth daily said Demjanjuk would be guarded by dozens of members of the prison services' elite "Nahshon" unit, and that there would be heavy police presence in court.

The report also said police have stepped up patrols near the homes of the five supreme court justices since last weekend, though there were no plans to post permanent guards.

Sheftel refused comment when asked where the stateless Demjanjuk would go if acquitted.

Demjanjuk, 73, was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1961 for lying in immigration documents about his alleged Nazi past. Officials at the Ukrainian embassy in Israel have said that as a Ukrainian native, he was eligible for Ukrainian citizenship.

Sheftel said Demjanjuk's son, John, and his son-in-law, Ed Nisnic, met with the inmate at his maximum security cell for about three hours Tuesday. He did not provide details.

Yedioth quoted Demjanjuk as telling a guard: "I'm optimistic and believe the supreme court will acquit me on all counts."

Demjanjuk was convicted and sentenced to death in April 1988 after five survivors of the Treblinka camp identified him as "Ivan," the brutal gas chamber operator who tortured and mutilated victims on their way to death. Some 850,000 people were killed in Treblinka in Nazi-occupied Poland in 1932-42.

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Home News



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF RESEARCH: Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and Princess Sarvath Tuesday attend a celebration held at the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR) marking its 25th anniversary

in the Kingdom. There, Prince Hassan opened an archaeology museum and an antiquities laboratory. ACOR's work is aimed at discovering and preserving Jordan's "rich and untapped" archaeological treasures (Photo by Boghos)

Omani envoy urges Arab states to bolster ties with Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Omani Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Ben Sultan Ben Hamad Al Bu Saeed Tuesday urged Gulf countries to follow his country's example and bolster their ties with Jordan in all fields.

Addressing a meeting organised by the Amman Rotary Club at the Philadelphia Hotel, the ambassador called on the Gulf States to regard Jordan as the closest Arab state to them.

Referring to the Gulf Crisis, the ambassador said Oman like Jordan had sought an Arab solution and sent delegations to various Arab states, but he said circumstances steered the events otherwise.

Noting that Oman has never cut its relations with Iraq, the ambassador said Muscat has close ties with all Arab states, particularly Jordan.

There are 270 Omani students

studying at Jordanian universities and the Kingdom continually provides Oman with teachers, said the ambassador.

Paying tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's efforts towards solidarity among Area, the ambassador said that Oman will never forget Jordan's support for his country in all military, cultural and other fields and appreciates Jordan's ongoing efforts to close Arab ranks.

with agricultural expertise.

The AOAD is keen on promoting its cooperation with the Kingdom and is determined to help Arab countries ensure food security, said Dr. Bakkour, who is currently on a tour of Arab states.

Speaking at a meeting with Agriculture Minister Marwan Kamal, he reviewed future AOAD plans, including training seminars, and AOAD's financial situation.

Dr. Bakkour said the organisa-

tion was willing to support all Jordanian agricultural development projects and would study a Jordanian plan to set up an agricultural training centre.

Dr. Kamal said Jordan was keen on paying its dues in full to the AOAD and supports the organisation in its endeavours to help Arab countries attain food security.

Dr. Bakkour said he would meet with other officials to discuss agricultural development in Jordan.

Tuesday from Syria in a three-day visit to Jordan, said AOAD con-

siders Jordan one of the main

centres for its activities and pro-

grammes and a member that has

been providing the organisation

with agricultural expertise.

The AOAD is keen on promoting

its cooperation with the King-

dom and is determined to help

Arab countries ensure food

security, said Dr. Bakkour, who

is currently on a tour of Arab

states.

He said the delegation rejected

such a prospect and discussed

with Mr. Brown the question of

UNRWA's recent decision to re-

duce some food supplies restrict-

ing them to "extremely severe"

cases."

The delegate said Mr. Brown

told the group that UNRWA

would pursue its efforts with the

donor nations to get more funds

and explained the agency's finan-

cial situation.

He said the group arrived at no

satisfactory result from the meet-

ing with Mr. Brown.

He said they called on Mr.

Brown to convey the refugees'

views and preempt and adverse

move on the part of the agency.

UNRWA, which offers ser-

vices to nearly \$1.1 million regis-

tered refugees in Jordan, has an

annual budget of \$285 million for its

fields of operations in Lebanon,

Syria, Jordan and the occupied

West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Of this budget, UNRWA has

allocated \$61.2 million for its

operations in Jordan, mainly

financing the education sector

which employs 5,000 teachers and

edates 150,000 students.

The latest move was prompted

because credit granted up to June

30 was more than JD 100 million

in excess of the half-yearly target

of JD 200 million.

This was set out under an

International Monetary Fund

programme.

He said the impact of the move,

they say, will go much further,

because it will redirect credit

from Jordan's active stock ex-

change and the booming real

estate.

The prime minister supported

the revitalising of the U.N.

General Assembly and the U.N.

agencies, adding that all countries

regard the organisation as rep-

resenting the interests of all na-

tions.

Mr. Ganev also underlined the

importance of a document pre-

sented, in the 1980s, by His Royal

Highness Crown Prince Hassan,

the Regent, to the U.N. on hu-

man rights. He said he will seek,

as president of the General Assem-

bly, to adopt it as an offi-

cial document.

Outlining the world organisa-

tion's current drive to modernise

and improve its performance,

Mr. Ganev said the U.N. aims at

promoting its activities in the

humanitarian, economic and so-

cietal arenas, as well as in the politi-

cal sphere.

Commenting on current criti-

cisms levelled at the United Na-

tions for adopting double stand-

ards in dealing with world issues

such as Palestine, Iraq and Bos-

nia. Mr. Ganev had earlier said

he was convinced that the world

was in need of a new United

Nations to cater to the world

events and developments and to

direct its attention towards peace

and development.

Mr. Majali voiced Jordan's

appreciation of the U.N. official's

endeavours, but noted that his

visit to Jordan coincided with

renewed Israeli aggression in

southern Lebanon for the third

day.

The raids are likely to adver-

sely affect the ongoing peace nego-

tiations unless they are halted,

warned the prime minister.

He said peace in the Middle

East is not only important for us,

but for the world at large and that

decision-makers ought to exert

efforts to attain that peace, which

he said, should be comprehensive

and durable and ensure an end to

conflict in the region.

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Features

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1993 5

The smothering 'curtain' that affects everyone

Following is the second, and last, part of an article written by Colin Edwards for the Link, a magazine published by Americans for Middle East Understanding, about his experience with Zionist censorship in the field of news reporting and documentary production.

Censorship at KALW-FM San Francisco

In March 1990 a producer at KALW-FM, a public radio station owned by the San Francisco Unified School District, invited me to do a weekly commentary of an "Op-Ed" nature, on world affairs. After decades of just straight reporting, producing documentaries and recording interviews in many countries, I thought it was time that I shared with the public some conclusions I had arrived at, as well as some historical background on situations abroad that were important, especially information that had been sadly lacking in the mass media as I had observed it. I would bring out facts that correspondents would tell you if you sat down personally with them but had not been able to say on the air or get into print.

These commentaries went on the air on March 28, 1990. I was allowed ten minutes and they were broadcast at 9:35 a.m. each Wednesday. Among the governments I dealt with very critically in the next two years and three months were, in addition to Israel: Lebanon, Cambodia, Thailand, South Africa, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Korea, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Germany, Burma, Kuwait, England, Iraq, the United States, and my own land or origin, Wales.

Beginning with the Aug. 22, 1990 commentary, my weekly airtime was cut to between five and six minutes.

My reports and comments on Israeli government actions brought frequent complaints from local Zionist organisations and individuals. Station Manager Daniel Del Solar told me of these every time I encountered him at the station. In a letter responding to a pro-Israeli listener who had complained of some things he claimed I had said (but had not) in my "vile" commentaries, Del Solar identified a senior member of his staff as "a strong supporter of Edwards." I considered this a betrayal by him of a subordinate. Also, what if that listener was a member of the numerous Jewish Defence League or had friends in it? They might have gone after that named staff member. I am the only one who should be responsible for my remarks and I accept the risks associated with them. No one else should be victimised on account of me.

One day I received a phone call from Del Solar accusing me of taking station property because I had used station tape and retained the recordings of my commentaries. I was outraged at this but he continued to put that construction on the arrangement I had with his staff. So, from them on I purchased tape out of my own pocket to do my commentaries. I wanted a record — on tape — of them all.

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I recalled all this when I was preparing my Sept. 11, 1991 KALW commentary, in which I was remarking on Zionist influence in American politics and said that I had heard of public officials in the U.S. serving in the Israeli armed forces reserves, and gave Quentin Kopp, by now a California State Senator, as a local example.

That term "reserves" had been used twice by the San Francisco Chronicle in its description of the "Volunteers for Israel" programme and I think the words "armed forces reserves" accurately describes the nature of the "Volunteers for Israel" programme, even though "armed forces volunteer reserves" would have been more precise. They all constitute forms of "military reserves."

From a friend who reads the Northern California Jewish Bulletin regularly I heard that its Nov. 22, 1991, issue had an item reading: "California State Senator Quentin Kopp (Independent, San Francisco) retracted his threat to file a libel suit against S.F. radio station KALW this week after the station promised to air an apology for broadcasting a statement that Kopp had been in the Israeli military. Colin Edwards, an occasional guest commentator on the station, told a radio audience, Sept. 11, that Kopp had served in the Israeli army and advocated other Americans join the Israeli reserves. Actually, Kopp had lent his services to Volunteers for Israel, an American organisation that places Americans — who pay their own way — in non-paid Israel army support positions for several weeks at a time."

I had not received from KALW's manager, Daniel Del Solar, any indication that it had been threatened with a lawsuit by Senator Kopp because of anything I had said on the air, or that

of them American but including English and South Africa, have paid their way to Israel to ease the shortage in the Israeli army."

"Easing the shortage in a military force" well describes the function of a military reserve.

The other article, illustrated by two more snapshots of Kopp in Israeli uniform, consisted of extracts from Kopp's diary for the 30 days he spent in the Israeli military in 1985. They included the following verbatim statements: "May 22: ...In the afternoon I help Limor (another volunteer) move a bomb to the flight repair shop... May 22: about 9:30 a.m. there's a flamboyant ceremony to celebrate the promotion of Ori, Miri and a third soldier (Dorit) to corporal... June 16: ...We turn in our uniforms."

The day after those articles appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, I happened to hear Kopp describing his service on the Israeli air bases on a radio talk show, the Ron Owens programme, on the ABC radio outlet in San Francisco, KGO. Kopp recommended a stint in the "Volunteers for Israel" programme to Owens and his listeners, explaining that anybody between 18 and 65, or 62, years of age, including women, were welcome to join. He repeatedly gave an address and a telephone number through which interested persons could get information and application forms. "If you are stuck and can't get through (on the phone) or something," he said, "call my office and I'll be happy to give you the information..." I've already had somebody write me from Walnut Creek who isn't Jewish, an ex-Marine Corps pilot. As a matter of fact, he flew Skyhawks, he said, and he wants to get into the programme. And so I sent him the address and the telephone number.

At least a couple of callers on the programme described how they had been going over to Israel as "volunteers for Israel" year after year, one to serve as a tank driver.

I recalled all this when I was preparing my Sept. 11, 1991 KALW commentary, in which I was remarking on Zionist influence in American politics and said that I had heard of public officials in the U.S. serving in the Israeli armed forces reserves, and gave Quentin Kopp, by now a California State Senator, as a local example.

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I had not received from KALW's manager, Daniel Del Solar, any indication that it had been threatened with a lawsuit by Senator Kopp because of anything I had said on the air, or that

it intended to apologise to him. This was an extreme courtesy to me but when I brought this up with Del Solar he was absolutely unapologetic.

I supplied him with copies of the 1985 issues of the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner containing the articles quoting Kopp on his service at the Israeli air force base and the photographs of him in Israeli uniform, as well as verbatim transcriptions of the relevant Kopp remarks on the Ron Owens talk show. Yet, Del Solar said he planned to go ahead with his broadcast apology to Kopp.

On Nov. 27, 1991, Del Solar went on the air on KALW and apologised to Kopp for my allegedly "erroneous statements" in my Sept. 11 commentary.

Early in 1992, Del Solar told me he was giving the Israeli Consulate General a chance to respond to remarks made about his government's actions by myself and another KALW commentator, Sasha Furman (who was also taken off the air soon after me).

It was to be a lengthy interview conducted by Del Solar. In his introduction to the interview, Del Solar declared: "In the June, 1967 war, Israel was not considered the aggressor. It was under attack by Egypt, Syria and Jordan

and, when it fought back, it occupied the land." (Del Solar apparently didn't know that even Israeli generals and politicians have discarded this myth.)

On June 22, 1992, a KALW staff member telephoned me to say that I was being taken off the air on the orders of Daniel Del Solar. I called Del Solar and he said it was because he needed my six minute commentary spot for programming of a more educational nature. I remarked: "Oh, come on, your decision was political." "Everything is political," he responded.

My last commentary was broadcast on July 1, 1992. At its end I told the listeners: "This is the last of my regular commentaries on KALW. It was not my decision to stop. This station has received many objections to my remarks from the Israeli Consulate General and Zionist organisations and individuals."

When listeners telephoned Del Solar to object to my commentaries being taken off the air, Del Solar told them that my statement was a lie. That he was not responding to any outside pressure.

An investigative reporter for the San Francisco Weekly, the only Bay area paper to say anything about my termination, wrote in its July 29, 1992 issue: "Outspoken radio commentator Colin Edwards has been fired from KALW-FM after a month-long campaign by the Jewish Anti-Defamation League and the threat of a lawsuit by state Senator Quentin Kopp.... The Kopp incident spurred the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) into action. Assistant Director Nancy Diner said last week, 'We started transcribing (Edwards') shows to

check for accuracy. We wrote many protest letters to the station. Diner said that, although it was not the ADL's intention to force Edwards off the air, one member of the group recently compiled a list of Edwards' alleged inaccuracies and took them to station manager Daniel Del Solar in a personal effort to get Edwards fired.

The police say that some of these illegally acquired files found their way into the ADL offices. An ADL spokeswoman, Barbara Wahl, has revealed that the ADL passes information to the government of Israel, a fact that has been suspected for many years. An article by the Jewish investigative journalist Robert I. Friedman in the Village Voice of May 11, 1993, quoted from a July 7, 1991 letter from the ADL's National Director (1946-1983) Ben Epstein to Saul Joffes, Executive Secretary of B'nai B'rith (the parent organisation to the ADL), requesting \$25,000 for his ADL spies. Epstein explained in the letter: "Our information, in addition to being essential for our own operations, has been of great value to both the United States State Department and the Israeli government. All data have been made available to both countries with full knowledge to each that we were the source."

Epstein's Associate National Director and, for forty-six years (1940-1986), the general counsel for the ADL, Arnold Forster, wrote in his autobiography, "Square One," that, from the time he took up his post in the ADL and until he retired, he operated a network of undercover agents who were infiltrated into many organisations disliked by the ADL and used methods that can surely be considered burglary. He describes how his "investigators" would gain the confidence of the targets of their spying and then, in their absence and without their knowledge, open file cabinets of confidential documents in their homes or offices and photograph the contents. At times when their targets returned to the premises while Forster's spies were at work, one ADL spy hid in a coal bin; another escaped with an accomplice over a rooftop.

Forster even admitted in the book that he acted as a "source" for the Israeli intelligence and terrorism agency, Mossad.

Robert I. Friedman, the New York Village Voice reporter, won the 1989 Smolar Award for Excellence in North American Jewish Journalism, which is presented by the Council of Jewish Federations. In his book "The False Prophet" (Lawrence Hill Books, 1990), about the leader of the Jewish Defence League, Meir Kahane, Friedman charged that a top official in the Brooklyn office of the ADL for many years, Bernard Deutsch, was a key member of a covert group that oversaw some of the Jewish Defence League's terrorist actions in the U.S. Other members of the group included Yitzhak Shamir (1940's Stern Gang terrorist), Mossad's Chief of Operations until 1965 and later, Prime Minister of Israel), and also three top Mossad officers (who gave weapons training to American Jewish youths in the JDL), several wealthy American and Israeli businessmen, and former Irgun terrorist and current Knesset Member Geula Cohen. The group's operations in support of the ADL were financed from the profits of Deutsch's investment business before he was indicted and convicted of stock fraud and tax evasion in 1975.

According to Friedman, the convicted Mossad spy Jonathan Pollard "wrote to friends that a prominent ADL leader was deeply involved in the Israeli spy operation" (in which) "Pollard... while assigned to the Navy's Anti-Terrorist Alert Centre, where he had access to the most closely guarded U.S. secrets, ...stole thousands of pages of classified documents for Israel, which, according to federal prosecutors, 'could fill a room the size of a large closet... ten feet by six feet by six feet.'" Robert Friedman added: "Pollard's (Mossad) handler was Avi Sella, an Israeli Air Force Colonel whose wife worked for the New

York ADL as a lawyer.... In 1987, the ADL came under FBI scrutiny in the wake of the Pollard spy scandal."

The ADL spy network is now headed by Irwin Suall, Director of the ADL's "Fact Finding" department in New York. Bullock works under him as his "No. 1 investigator." Suall's spying system works closely with one run by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). The latter's spy operation was exposed in articles in the July 1992 issue of the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs by its Executive Editor, Richard H. Curtis and by a former (1990-1991) AIPAC "opposition researcher," Gregory D. Slabodkin in a story by Sheldon L. Richman in the October 1992 issue of the same journal, and in a piece by Robert L. Friedman in the Aug. 4, 1992 issue of Village Voice.

Slabodkin, now in Israel, was quoted by Friedman in a later article in the Village Voice as saying: "The level of cooperation (between the ADL and AIPAC) was very close. If we failed our files were lacking, we contacted ADL."

Among the Arab-American groups targeted by Bullock was the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC). He personally infiltrated it so successfully that the ADC chose him to head an ADC delegation to lobby San Francisco Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi. In a strategy to help the ADL discredit the ADC, Bullock even got some of his neo-Nazi and White Supremacist contacts to attend ADC meetings and apply for membership.

ADL spokespersons maintain that they have done nothing illegal in their employment of Bullock and that they have cooperated fully with the police. The police say it has not and, on that basis, got search warrants for a second raid on ADL offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles on April 8, 1993, seizing documents that they say the ADL had promised to provide before but had not.

Politics has entered the picture. In Los Angeles the L.A. Police Department did not cooperate with San Francisco police investigators and the FBI, saying it was

a "sensitive matter."

San Francisco police say that there are now police officers and sheriffs all over the U.S. feeding confidential information from government files on activist groups and just plain critics of Israel to ADL spies like Bullock. Tom Gerard, the former San Francisco police intelligence officer who did this, was among many U.S. law enforcement officials who took ADL-sponsored, all-expenses-paid, two-week trips to Israel to be shown Israeli methods of dealing with unruly Arabs and to receive political briefings. Also taking one of these junks, when he was the police chief, was the current mayor of San Francisco, Frank Jordan.

Jordan's election campaign is said to have been dreamt up at a meeting between journalist Warren Hinckle, lawyer Jack Davis and State Senator Quentin Kopp (the man who threatened KALW with a lawsuit over my statement that he had been in the Israeli armed forces reserves).

Kopp was interviewed by the San Francisco Daily Journal, a legal paper, about a class action suit taken out against the ADL by former Congressman Paul N. ("Pete") McCloskey, Jr., who with his wife Helen was among the spying targets of Bullock. The plaintiffs in the suit included Meir Kahane, the Stern Gang terrorist, Mossad's Chief of Operations until 1965 and later, Prime Minister of Israel), and also three top Mossad officers (who gave weapons training to American Jewish youths in the JDL), several wealthy American and Israeli businessmen, and former Irgun terrorist and current Knesset Member Geula Cohen. The group's operations in support of the ADL were financed from the profits of Deutsch's investment business before he was indicted and convicted of stock fraud and tax evasion in 1975.

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which, according to federal prosecutors, 'could fill a room the size of a large closet... ten feet by six feet by six feet.'"

Robert Friedman added: "Pollard's (Mossad) handler was Avi Sella,

an Israeli Air Force Colonel whose wife worked for the New

Yorker I wrote a letter to the editor of the Daily Journal giving broadcast dates and publication dates of reports I had done on Nazi atrocities against Jews and the reemergence of Nazis in the West German military, police and judicial establishments, of my interviews with Dr. Israel Shahak and other Israelis, of my autobiography, and of other works of mine that illustrate that my criticism has not been of Jews, as Jews, but of Zionist ideology and Israel's policies and actions.

On May 3, 1993, The San Francisco Daily Journal published a truncated version of the two pages the editor had said he would print in the Letters to the Editor section. While it kept in full a section where I described critical commentaries I had done on Arab regimes, it cut out completely my mentions of interviews I had done with leaders of the ANC, ZANU and SWAPO African liberation movements (in the early 1970's) who talked of their respect for Jews like Israel Shahak and Moshe Menushin, my report from Syria on the situation of the Jewish community there that, like similar reports by Mike Wallace and a National Geographic reporter, contradicted Zionist propaganda on the subject, my commentaries on Zionist collaboration with the Nazis, Italian fascists and Japanese militarists before and during World War II, and on the Israeli attack on the U.S.S. Liberty, and the strange circumstances surrounding the death of Norman Wallen, who was planning to make a film on that incident that would have featured prominently the heroism of two Jewish members of the Liberty's crew.

As for former Police Inspector Tom Gerard, he returned from his hideaway in the Philippines on May 6 and was immediately arrested on eleven hastily-drawn felony charges. The number of charges was reduced the following day, as was the bail (from \$250,000 to \$20,000). He claims he left the Philippines because he feared the CIA would try to have him killed there after he had threatened to blow the whistle on CIA involvement with death squads in Central America, where he served as a CIA agent from 1980 to 1984, if he was indicted in the ADL spying case.

On May 10, in a development that surprised everyone with knowledge of the tremendous political influence wielded by Zionists in San Francisco, as elsewhere in the country, a "source close to the criminal probe" told the San Francisco Examiner that "top officials of the Anti-Defamation League are the ultimate targets of the San Francisco District Attorney's domestic spying investigation.... Gerard and Bullock are only 'cogs,' the source said."

It seems that at last a small dedicated group of public servants are willing to challenge the might of Zionist influence over the political, law-enforcement and judicial establishments in this country in order to protect the constitutional rights of ordinary citizens and residents.

However, in contrast, judging by the near complete blacking out by most of the newspapers and other media in this country and abroad of this important story of ADL spying and the involvement of many law-enforcement officers nationwide, the heavy weight of the "Zion Curtain" is still being felt, almost smothering the public's right to know what it needs to know about matters affecting everyone.

Disaster-stopper grounded for lack of interest

By Jack Taylor
Agence France Presse

SYDNEY — Australian scientists who invented a device which can warn airline pilots of potential disaster seem to be forced overseas to find a company willing to complete its commercial development.

The device, which warns of conditions responsible for a large number of air crashes and near misses, also has an export potential for whichever country develops it of \$270 million, chief designer Fred Prata said Monday.

Oxford-educated, Prata said due to the economic downturn here, the one company which wanted to develop the device had pulled out and no other had been found willing to invest the needed \$6.75 million in developing the Airborne Hazard Detection System (AHDS).

The device, developed in the laboratories of the Australian government's Commonwealth

Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), gives early warning of volcanic ash clouds, a constant hazard to aircraft flying over parts of Asia, North America and elsewhere.

The U.S. scientific journal Nature reported last week that volcanic ash was known to have caused damage to at least 60 airliners and the risks were increasing.

One of the jets was a KLM 747 which made a remarkable safe landing after a cloud of ash stopped all four engines over Mount Redoubt in Alaska on a flight from Amsterdam to Anchorage in December, 1989.

The four engines had to be replaced at a cost of \$80 million.

The multi-functional AHDS, which Mr. Prata believes will be marketed for around \$135,000 also warns of two other hazards feared by pilots: clear-air turbulence and low-level wind shear, which have caused many crashes.

The 10 kilogramme device,

which works by identifying the infra-red "signature" of the hazard ahead, has returned to Australia after successful testing aboard a Cessna light plane over June 12, 1991," said Mr. Prata, who has a doctorate in atmospheric physics.

"I understand a U.S. geological survey says 60 aircraft are known to have been damaged by ash. Our system would give five to 10 minutes warning of ash and that's plenty of time for avoiding action."

"Boeing was very willing to encourage its development and in fact there are a number of companies in the United States that would be willing to develop it.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET					
HOUSING BANK CENTER - AMMAN - JORDANIA TELEPHONE: 06/4177 / 642129 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 27/07/1993					
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED PREV. NUMBER OF SHARES	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHG. IN P/C	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	259,625	175.885	186.032	+10.147	+5.88%
BANK OF JORDAN	34,300	1.100	1.100	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT BANK	8,193	5.300	5.325	+0.225	+4.26%
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	180,624	2.100	2.150	+0.050	+2.38%
THE HOUSING BANK	16,100	1.100	1.100	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN KIRADIT BANK	45,528	5.300	5.320	+0.020	+3.70%
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	62,548	3.468	3.380	-0.088	-2.44%
UNION BANK FOR BANKING & INVESTMENT	10,674	4.726	4.720	-0.026	-0.53%
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	4,004	4.740	4.752	+0.012	+0.26%
BEIT ELMAIL SAYING & INVESTMENT FOR HOLDING	42,510	5.050	5.050	0.000	0.00%
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	7,147	5.525	5.525	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	5,665	5.525	5.525	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	65,680	3.070	3.110	+0.040	+1.31%
THE NATIONAL ANILIA INSURANCE	31,110	3.220	3.220	0.000	0.00%
IBRUD DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	6,213	3.950	4.100	+0.150	+3.82%
VEHICLES OWNERS FEDERATION	7,756	7.000	7.000	0.000	0.00%
NATIONAL HOTELS & RESORTS	9,282	5.250	5.450	+0.200	+3.75%
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO INDUSTRIES	24,223	2.040	2.050	+0.010	+0.50%
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	12,076	2.070	2.050	-0.020	-0.97%
PETRA PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL HOLDING	12,076	1.790	0.782	-1.008	-56.40%
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	495	1.940	1.850	-0.190	-10.21%
MARSHAL GROUP REPAIRING & MAINTENANCE	570	1.160	1.140	-0.020	-1.75%
JORDAN PRESS & PUBLISHING FAD-JORDON	1,200	1.100	1.100	0.000	0.00%
ARAB LEADERSHIP EAST ASIA COMPANY	5,290	9.500	9.500	0.000	0.00%
ATTAPACHEE COMET MATERIAL MANUFACTURING	7,610	2.380	2.380	0.000	0.00%
ARAB LEADERSHIP EAST ASIA COMPANY	3,140	2.200	2.200	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	9,972	2.210	2.210	0.000	0.00%
THE INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION & AGRICULTURAL	16,000	3.000	3.050	+0.050	+1.67%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	161,220	8.180	8.200	+0.020	+0.24%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	1,180	11.750	11.800	+0.050	+0.43%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	1,073,200	11.750	11.800	+0.050	+0.43%
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	767	7.300	7.670	+0.370	+5.10%
JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES	345	2.280	2.280	0.000	0.00%
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	1,200	2.200	2.200	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PRECARIOUS & METALS INDUSTRY	10,170	19.950	20.100	+0.150	+0.75%
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	3,735	3.040	2.980	-0.060	-2.00%
ARAB INDUSTRIES	3,290	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	3,220	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.00%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	215,200	20.480	20.480	0.000	0.00%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	25,425	2.120	2.120	0.000	0.00%
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	287,540	10.000	12.682	+2.682	+26.40%
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	17,103	4.240	4.250	+0.010	+0.24%
JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES	8,930	6.500	6.500	0.000	0.00%
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	78,213	6.950	6.950	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN PRECARIOUS & METALS INDUSTRY	2,120	1.200	1.200	0.000	0.00%
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	33,670	10.400	10.400	0.000	0.00%
ARAB CEMENT FOR AGGREGATES & CEMENTS	22,357	4.480	4.480	0.000	0.00%
JORDAN KUWAIT CO. FOR AGRI. & FOOD PROD.	9,760	1.980	1.980	0.000	0.00%
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	127,019	5.860	5.900	+0.040	+0.70%
GRAND TOTAL	3,516,593				
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	127,062				
TRADE VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET	292,071				

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets				
Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date: 26.7.93			
Sterling Pound	1.5005			
Deutsche Mark	1.7246			
Swiss Franc	1.5197			
French Franc	5.8875			
Japanese Yen	106.70			
European Currency Unit	1.1270			
USD Per STD European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT				
Europen Interest Rates	Date: 27.7.93			
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.06	3.18	3.43	3.75
Sterling Pound	5.87	5.87	5.81	5.81
Deutsche Mark	7.00	6.81	6.62	6.23
Swiss Franc	4.63	4.59	4.50	4.35
French Franc	10.75	8.75	7.62	6.62
Japanese Yen	3.12	3.18	3.09	3.09
European Currency Unit	8.81	8.12	7.56	7.00
Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.				

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 27.7.93		
Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.695	0.697
Sterling Pound	1.0404	1.0456
Deutsche Mark	1.200	1.200
Swiss Franc	0.4024	0.4044
French Franc	0.4560	0.4583
Japanese Yen	0.1179	0.1185
Dutch Guilder	0.3578	0.3596
Swedish Krona	0.0864	0.0868
Italian Lira	0.0432	0.0434
Belgian Franc	0.01942	0.01952
Per 100		
Other Currencies		
Date: 27.7.93		
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8180	1.8380
Lebanese Lira	0.03925	0.0410
Saudi Riyal	0.1848	0.1855
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2200	2.2900
Qatari Riyal	0.1880	0.1920
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2300
Omani Riyal	1.7650	1.8200
UAE Dirham	0.1880	0.1920
Greek Drachma	0.2915	0.3215
Cypriot Pound	1.3415	1.3815
Per 100		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.
U.S. \$1.00 costs
1.2825/35
1.7215/25
1.9385/95
1.5190/00
35.72/73
5.8750/00
1608.5/0.5
106.75/85
8.0200/00
7.3500/00
6.6940/40
One sterling \$1.4975/85
One ounce of gold \$393.25/393.75

Privatisation row threatens Greek government stability

ATHENS (R) — Nationwide strikes against privatisation disrupted transport and services Tuesday, and Greece's conservative government also faced internal strife over selling major utilities to the private sector.

Urban transport stopped, banks, post office, services and train schedules were disrupted and many areas had power cuts, and about 2,000 workers marched through the streets of Athens shouting anti-government slogans.

"You are thieves, not governors," the strikers shouted and replaced the sign outside the national economy ministry with one reading "ministry of national sales."

The General Confederation of Greek Workers (GSEE), Greece's largest labour body, called the strike to protest against the privatisation of the power and phone companies, refineries and state-owned hotels.

But some of these privatisation plans have found enemies even

within the ruling New Democracy Party.

With a slim majority of 152 deputies in the 300-seat parliament, the government risks defeat if its privatisation bills. This would threaten its stability and seriously damage its credibility less than a year before elections.

Although a motion of no-confidence cannot be submitted to parliament before September, at least six months after the last one called by the Socialist opposition, political analysts say it would be difficult for a government and ruling party deputies to oppose the handing over of management and threaten to vote down the bill.

Parliament voted last week to allow the private production of electricity for the public power corporation only after National Economy Minister Stephanos Manos amended the bill and assured conservative deputies that electricity prices would not be affected.

Senior party members also object to a tax bill being discussed

Fighting rages in Sarajevo as mediators launch peace bid

SARAJEVO (R) — Fierce fighting was reported in Sarajevo and other flashpoints in Bosnia Tuesday as international mediators in Geneva launched non-stop negotiations to try to end the republic's 16-month war.

As Bosnia's Serb and Croat leaders and their political masters in neighbouring Serbia and Croatia arrived in Geneva, international mediator Lord Owen predicted no quick breakthrough in the talks.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, whose forces have taken 70 per cent of the war-ravaged republic, said the Geneva meeting marked "the last chance to get an honest peace."

NATO moved closer to military intervention, saying it expected to provide air cover over Bosnia "sooner rather than later" after a weekend artillery attack on French peacekeepers in Sarajevo.

U.N. commanders, angered by the attack which they have pinned firmly on the Bosnian Serbs in spite of denials by their leaders, have threatened to retaliate if they are attacked again.

NATO has assembled a force of 60 combat aircraft at bases in Italy and forward air controllers needed to guide them were believed to be in place in Bosnia. Bosnian radio said Serb forces besieging Sarajevo were continuing to pound Zuc Hill in the north of the city with heavy artillery.

In spite of a ceasefire agreed by the three parties in advance of the Geneva talks, shelling could be

heard in Sarajevo, with an intense barrage erupting around the Zuc area followed by a pall of black smoke rising from the hills.

The Belgrade-based news agency Tanjug said the attack had been launched by Muslim units, while Serb forces pushed them back and destroyed a tank.

Zuc Hill is one of two remaining high points overlooking Sarajevo still in the hands of Muslim-led government troops defending the city.

On the other, Mount Igman, which controls the western approaches to the city, Serbs were reported to be attacking with artillery and infantry. The radio said all attacks had been repulsed and 12 Serb fighters had been killed.

The importance of Igman was underlined by a senior Bosnian Serb officer, Major-General Manjilo Milovanovic, who told Tanjug that Muslim forces were trying to establish links with other Muslim-held areas of Bosnia.

"Our units will not permit the breakthrough of Muslim formations from Igman," he said.

Fighting was reported in Brcko as Serbs battled to widen a supply corridor in northern Bosnia linking Serb proper with Serb-held territories in north-west Bosnia and Croatia.

Bosnian radio said Serbs had kept up their artillery bombardment of government positions throughout the night and tried unsuccessfully to infiltrate com-

mando units through government lines.

On Monday, Serb sources said at least 30 soldiers on both sides had been killed as Serbs pushed back Muslim forces around Brcko, which lies on the Sava River.

Fighting was reported in central Bosnia, where Croatian radio said Muslim forces had broken through Bosnian Croat defence lines at the strategic settlement of Banovo Brdo near Fojnic, captured by Muslims last week.

In Geneva, mediator Lord Owen said he did not expect dramatic breakthroughs, adding: "I think it will take time."

"We've said we're ready to sit here until we get a final settlement and that's our attitude to it, but I don't think we can urge people to take very important decisions about their country against a deadline of time," he told reporters.

The mediators said they did not expect to sit all the factions down together in a "plenary session" of the conference until Wednesday and planned bilateral meetings instead.

"Whether a single step forward will be made depends on whether the main issues will be discussed, and one of these is the map showing how such an arrangement would look on the ground."

"The solution offered is just for all three sides and without doubt, if this step forward is made, we can expect a quick, positive solution of the problem."

"And that means to reach peace. Peace as the basis for all other solutions. And all other solutions are easier to reach than this," he said.

Bosnia's 10-strong presidency instead wants to create a federal Bosnia with a more powerful



South Korean relief workers and family members Tuesday try to identify the dead bodies pulled out of the wreckage of the crash (AFP photo)

Rescuers call off search for S. Korea plane crash survivors

HAEAM, South Korea (R) — Rescuers ended a search for survivors of South Korea's worst domestic air crash on Tuesday after finding 66 bodies, including a mother and young son clasped in each other's arms.

Forty-four people survived when an Asiana Airlines Boeing 737-500 smashed into a cliff in driving wind and rain on the southern tip of the Korean peninsula Monday.

But still missing was a four-year-old girl, sister of the boy found in his mother's arms, her family said.

Twenty-six of the survivors were badly injured, government officials said. The death toll is expected to rise.

Distracted friends and relatives, some of them hysterical, identified their dead at a makeshift morgue at a local school.

Scuffles broke out when members of a grieving family complained about the poor quality of the coffins provided. They said

they contained mould or fungus.

Two or three caskets were smashed in the fracas.

The body of Chung Yoo-Soo, 35, was found embracing her six-year-old son Keung-Suk, the domestic Yonhap News Agency said. Mother and son were laid in a single coffin.

Officials said the body of Chung's missing daughter, four-year-old Lee Song-Mee, may be trapped under the wrecked fuselage.

Late July is the height of the South Korean summer holiday season and flights are heavily booked.

All but three of the passengers were South Korean. Two of the three Japanese on board survived the impact, which tore the aircraft in two.

Asian engineers had recovered the flight recorder but it would take about a month to analyse the contents, airline Vice-President Park Yong-Tae told reporters.

Boeing sent three investigators from headquarters in Seattle, Washington, to assist in the investigation.

Japan neutrals move closer to opposition bloc

TOKYO (R) — Two neutral parties committed to cleaning up Japanese politics moved closer to an opposition alliance Tuesday — raising the prospect of an end to almost four decades of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) rule.

The Japan New Party (JNP) and the Harbinger New Party, whose 49 members hold the balance of parliamentary power after the July 18 general election, held talks on policy with the five-party opposition alliance Tuesday.

There was no word on how the talks went. But alliance officials said discussions would continue into Tuesday night and Wednesday morning and would cover ways to boost the sluggish economy and foreign and defence issues.

In the election the scandal-tainted LDP lost its majority in the 511-member lower house of

parliament, taking just 227 seats. It needs the JNP-Harbinger votes to get its new leader chosen as prime minister in parliament and to stay in power.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa resigned as LDP president last week to take responsibility for the election fiasco.

Before joining any coalition, the JNP-Harbinger bloc insisted suitors accept a plan to clean up politics, tarnished by series of scandals in the past decade.

The reforms include stiff anti-corruption laws, a ban on political donations by private firms and the introduction of a simple electoral system.

The five opposition parties — the Socialists, the Buddhist-backed Komeito, the Japan Renewal Party of LDP defectors, the centrist Democratic Socialists and the tiny Socialist Democratic Federation — have accepted re-

form.

The LDP also accepted the proposals at the hastily called convention Tuesday. Newspapers called the move hypocritical because the ruling party rejected such plans just last month.

Speaking after the LDP decision, JNP leader Morihiro Hosokawa again refused to consider forming a coalition with the ruling party.

"There is no chance that we would join hands with the LDP unless they split into two," he said in an interview with Kyodo News Agency.

His ally, Harbinger leader Masayoshi Takemura, was more cautious. "It would be difficult for the LDP to carry out wholesale repentance and start all over again," he said.

"At the same time, a seven-party government would be very fragile and only a notch above a

majority in parliament."

Socialist Party Secretary-General Hirotaka Akamatsu was upbeat about the prospects of a union with the neutral parties. He said there was a good chance of a summit of all seven opposition or neutral party leaders Thursday.

Such a summit could seal the formation of a non-LDP government for the first time since 1955.

The LDP rejected political reforms in June, triggering mass defections which brought down the Miyazawa government and led to the party's worst general election performance.

The political confusion forced the LDP to postpone convening parliament. Party officials now say it will be called on Aug. 5, three days later than originally planned.

The crucial vote on the next prime minister could take place around Aug. 14, they said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. pilot killed in F-16 collision

SEOUL (AFP) — One pilot was killed and another was injured when their U.S. Air Force (USAF) F-16 fighters collided in flames Tuesday at Kunsan Air Base in South Korea, a U.S. military spokesman said. The two single-seat jet fighters collided on the runway at the air base, some 270 kilometres (160 miles) south of Seoul, at about 3:30 p.m. (0630 GMT), the spokesman said. Earlier reports said the two pilots were both alive. The name of the pilot who was killed was being withheld pending notification of next-of-kin. Local press reports said the accident occurred when the two F-16s collided as one was landing and the other was taking off. The collision forced the closure of the air base for civilian flights, the national Yonhap News Agency said. At the time of the accident, the F-16s were on routine training missions, the spokesman said.

Hong Kong talks hit more trouble

PEKING (AFP) — China warned Tuesday that talks with Britain on democratic reforms for Hong Kong may be threatened by recent steps by the colony's Governor Chris Patten, which it rejected as "unacceptable." Mr. Patten last Friday named members of an election commission charged with drawing electoral boundaries and ensuring that local district and legislative districts boards. "In disregard of opposition from the Chinese side," the Foreign Ministry here said, "the British side has connived at the unilateral actions of the British Hong Kong authorities designed to create a fait accompli." The foreign ministry statement said Mr. Patten's decisions directly concerned electoral arrangements and should therefore be discussed and agreed by both sides.

U.S. presses Vietnam on MIA issue

SINGAPORE (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told Vietnam's Foreign Ministry Tuesday that lifting the U.S. trade embargo against Hanoi would depend on resolving the fate of missing American servicemen. Mr. Christopher told Nguyen Manh Cam, as they posed for photographers, that President Bill Clinton "is very clear that it will be progress (on the MIA issue) that will determine whether there is progress toward improving the relationship between our two countries." It was the second meeting between the two men, who first met Sunday during a dinner for Asian foreign ministers attending the Association of South East Asian Nations' annual meeting. Mr. Christopher's message was designed to meet the concerns of U.S. veterans groups and relatives of missing Americans who believe the Clinton administration was moving too quickly to normalise relations with Hanoi.

China, U.S. hold security talks

PEKING (AFP) — China and the United States discussed President Bill Clinton's proposal for a worldwide suspension of nuclear weapons testing and other issues here Tuesday, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Undersecretary of State for International Security Affairs Lynn Davis met with China's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Xinhua said. On Monday, she met with Vice Foreign Minister Liu Huaihua. Besides the moratorium on testing, the officials also discussed "other issues of common concern," Xinhua said, but provided no details.

Managua had prior knowledge of attack

MANAGUA (AFP) — The government of President Violeta Chamorro had prior knowledge of last week's rebel attack on Esteli, but was hoodwinked by a rebel leader, Police Director Fernando Caldera said. Victor Gallegos, a 38-year-old former army counterinsurgency expert known as "Pedrito the Honduran," promised in negotiations with the government four days before attack that his group would disarm, Caldera said. "We did not expect an attack on the city," Mr. Caldera told reporters late Monday. Some 150 heavily armed members of the Peasant Workers Revolutionary Front under Mr. Gallegos's command, identified as disgruntled ex-soldiers under the former Sandinista government, seized parts of the northern city of Esteli Wednesday. Some 1,000 government troops routed the rebels by the following day, but the violent clash left 45 dead and some 100 wounded. Fifty-nine people were arrested but Mr. Gallegos and dozens of his men managed to escape.

Over 2,000 fall sick after U.S. acid leak

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — More than 2,000 people flocked to hospitals for treatment for stinging eyes and burning throats after a leaking railcar released a thick cloud of sulphuric acid over the city of Richmond Monday, officials said. Until it was capped by hazardous materials experts almost four hours later, the leakage forced the closure of roads, a subway station and a shipping channel and the closure of libraries and at least one school. A white cloud began forming over Richmond, an industrial centre 15 miles east of San Francisco, after a safety seal broke on a railcar carrying 12,000 gallons (45,424 litres) of oleum, a concentrated form of sulphuric acid. The acid was being unloaded from the railcar into storage tanks at a plant owned by General Chemical Corp., a New Jersey-based company. Officials advised residents in the area of the cloud to stay indoors and to close doors and windows. About 1,030 people were treated at a Kaiser Hospital and clinic in the area and more than 250 were still waiting to be seen, spokesman John Mejia said. Another 850 people were treated at Brooksides Hospital in neighbouring San Pablo, spokesman Jim Beaver said. About 140 other people were treated at three other area hospitals, spokesman said.

Britons get to hear 'Majorgate'

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister John Major became the latest victim of a British enthusiasm for eavesdropping Tuesday with the publication of private remarks in which he uses strong language and jokingly calls himself a "wimp." The accident-prone prime minister was embarrassed at the weekend by a leak of the same conversation, in which he was reported to have referred to government ministers who disapprove of closer European union as "bastards." A British tabloid went one step further Tuesday and published a full transcript of Mr. Major's alleged off-the-record exchange with a journalist after his government won a vote of confidence on European Union Friday. The Daily Mirror also invited readers to ring a special telephone line to listen to its so-called "scoop of the year," the latest in a long line of unguarded conversations involving public figures to be given great prominence in the press. Mr. Major, regarded by many as a colourless character dogged by indecision, banters about his struggle to secure approval of the Maastricht Treaty and asks with heavy self-irony: "Why does such a complete wimp like me keep winning?"

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Battles broke out in a township squatter camp Tuesday after attackers staged a pre-dawn raid that killed five people, including three children, police said.

President F.W. De Klerk urged ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to meet in an effort to persuade their followers to stop fighting. Later, government officials planned talks with Inkatha in hopes of luring it back to constitutional negotiations.

A draft constitution was unveiled Monday after months of negotiations and promises a democratic government elected by blacks and whites for the first time in the country's history.

The pro-apartheid Conservative Party and the conservative black Inkatha Freedom Party immediately rejected the document, saying it smacked of ANC-government collaboration and did not go far enough to ensure autonomy for ethnic groups and regions. They boycotted Monday's talks in protest, and other negotiators suspended talks Tuesday to give the two parties time to reconsider.

But ANC Secretary-General Cyril Ramaphosa indicated negotiations would continue as planned Wednesday, even if the Conservatives and Inkatha refused to return.

The rising political tensions

raised the specter of new violence, which could threaten plans for elections in April 1994. Violence against blacks and whites has increased with the pace of negotiations, a sign of the panic extremists feel as their demands go unanswered.

Police Maj. Des Segal said that was a mistake. More than 40 people remained hospitalised, many in serious condition.

Black and white political leaders denounced the ambush Tuesday of the mostly white church, but the leading black group, the ANC, said it must not be allowed to halt negotiations on the constitution.

The hardline black Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) denied Tuesday that its guerrillas carried out Sunday night's attack on the Cape Town church.

"We are not responsible. We have contacted our field commanders and reports are that APLA is not responsible... this is the ultimate statement," it comes from the high command, APLA publicity and information chief Jonny Majozzi told Reuters by telephone from Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania.

Three of the 34 wounded remained in intensive care.

Mr. Majozzi said although APLA, the exiled military wing of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), had attacked "soft" targets in the past, an attack on a church was "not APLA policy."

"We have defined our main targets as the security forces."

Mr. Majozzi said callers claiming APLA responsibility for the attack in telephone calls to reporters "might not be our people at all."

Jagger turns 50

LONDON (R) — Mick Jagger, the 1960s bad boy of rock 'n' roll, turned 50 Monday but many of his fans may not want to be reminded of his hero has passed a milestone of middle age. Jagger was recording an album with the Rolling Stones Monday at guitarist Ron Wood's Dublin home. He was unavailable to discuss the delicate issue of his age. "I would think Mick feels hideous about being 50," Tony King, a former employee, told one newspaper. "Probably one part of him shrugs it off but when you're 50 you know you're older." The Rolling Stones' former manager Andrew Oldham told the *Guardian*: "Well, honey, I'm glad I didn't have to work that hard, because I would hate to have those lines on my face." The Jagger's threw a lavish party ostensibly to celebrate France's Bastille Day in London last week but his entourage made it clear this was not a 50th birthday bash. The irony of Jagger being a grandfather and older than U.S. President Bill Clinton was not lost on columnists who asked, using a Jagger lyric, whether time was still on his side. His strutting, gyrating act as he belts out Satisfaction and Let's Spend The Night together still fills stadiums and generates millions of dollars. His relationship with his wife, American model Jerry Hall, still grabs headlines. Now a huge business enterprise, the Rolling Stones have become the grand old men of rock — an image that would have horrified the 1960s rebels. Jagger is amongst Britain's richest men.

French gambled away \$11.2 billion

PARIS (AFP) — The French gambled away a record 65 billion francs (\$11.2 billion) on horse-racing and lotteries in 1992, 16 per cent more than in 1991, according to figures released Tuesday by the National Statistics Institute (INSEE). The amount represented 1.3 per cent of household income before tax and was more than the French spent on books and newspapers (63 billion francs — \$10.8 billion in 1991) and a third as much as again as the amount spent on alcohol. INSEE said that spending on games of chance had increased every year since 1970. Playing national lottery games and scratch-and-win cards had gained in popularity and had almost caught up with betting on horses. One adult in two currently gamb

Sports

Evans wins U.S. swimming title

AUSTIN, Texas (R) — Janet Evans won the 800-metres freestyle at the U.S. National Swimming Championship Monday in a faster time than her gold medal performance at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

Evans, 22, a four-time Olympic gold medallist, won her 34th consecutive U.S. national title in 8:23.61, nearly two seconds faster than her Olympic time of 8:25.52.

It was also her 16th consecutive 800 freestyle title, a streak started at the 1987 Pan Pacific Championships in Japan.

"If I had swum slow at this meet I probably would have quit, but this is really encouraging," Evans said. "I'm in great shape and there is a lot less pressure on me because people expect less of me now that I'm older."

Evans, world record-holder in the 800 with a time of 8:16.22, is third on the U.S. all-time list for national titles. She is two away from tying second-placed Johnny Weissmuller and has the 200, 400, and 1,500-metres freestyle events still to swim here.

Evans won the 800 freestyle gold medal at the 1992 Olympics and gold medals in the 400-metres individual medley and the 400 and 800 freestyle at the 1988 games in Seoul.

In Monday night's race, Evans led by a full body length after the first 100 metres. No one in the field pushed her.

"I know she can swim faster and she does, too," said her coach Mark Schubert, coach of the 1992 U.S. women's Olympic team.

Evans has been training with men at the University of Southern California. She said she is more relaxed than she has ever been and may compete in the World Aquatic Championships in Rome in September 1994.

American Peter Wright, 20, won the men's 800-metres freestyle in 7:58.90.

The top two finishers in each event during the five-day meet qualify for the Pan Pacific Championships Aug. 12-15 in Kobe, Japan.



Andreas Berger

Austrian sprint champion admits he took drugs

VIENNA (AFP) — Austrian sprint champion Andreas Berger and his three World championship relay teammates face a four-year ban after Berger admitted they all took drugs.

Berger, the country's top sprinter, admitted in a television interview: "There are four official cases of doping. We won't bother with a second confirmation test. This is a confession."

The four — Berger, Franz Ratzenberger, Thomas Renner and Gernot Kellermayr, who came 11th in the decathlon in the Barcelona Olympics — were all training for the World Championships in Stuttgart next month.

They were tested randomly on July 7 after a training session at Voecklabruck.

For Berger, 32, holder of the Austrian 100m and 200m records as well as European indoor 60m champion, the scandal certainly marks the end of his career.

Berger said he had been "in a terrible dilemma after two bad starts in Barcelon."

"Nothing was going right in

training any more and so the question came up — give up or use illegal methods."

Director of Austria's Sports Institute Hans Holdhaus said the athletes had taken an anabolic steroid called Methan-Dienon which could have adverse effects on their health and hearts in the long run.

He welcomed Berger's admission, saying: "It's better than having to wait for the results of a second test which in any case would confirm the first results."

"We must now try and find out exactly how these drugs managed to get into Austria and how they are distributed," he said.

Ratzenberger, 28, Gernot Kellermayr, 27, and Thomas Renner, 26, will have to wait with Berger until next month to officially hear their fate.

The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) will meet on Aug. 12 to discuss the affair, with an automatic four-year ban reserved for drug cheats the likely outcome.

Russian swimmers plan freestyle sweep

LONDON (R) — Olympic champions Alexander Popov and Evgeny Sadovy will make a bold raid on all the top-attraction men's freestyle titles at the European Swimming Championships in Sheffield over the next two weeks.

The two Russians feature in a parade of Barcelona gold medalists alongside versatile Hungarians Tamás Darnyi and Krisztina Egerszegi, U.S.-based Spaniard Martín López-Zubero, German Dagmar Hase and Belarussian Elena Rudkovskaya.

But Franziska Van Almsick who won four Olympic medals at the age of just 14, has rewritten the short-course world record books since Barcelona and could upstage them all in the 50-metre long-course pool.

The precocious former East

German could romp away with four individual titles at 50, 100 and 200 metres freestyle and 100 butterfly in the 11-day championships which start Thursday.

Popov and Sadovy made their first mark in major senior championships with respective gold medals in the 100 and 400 metres freestyle at the 1991 Europeans in Athens in the days of the old Soviet Union.

They made an even bigger splash in Barcelona last year when Popov deposed American kingpin Matt Biondi as Olympic 50 and 100 metres champion. The shaven-headed Sadovy charged with the 200 and 400 freestyle titles and anchored the victorious 4x200 metres freestyle relay under the passing colours of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Egerszegi, Olympic and European champion at 100 and 200 backstroke and 400 individual medley, adds the 200 metres butterfly to her targets for Sheffield.

Darnyi seeks to repeat the golden treble of 200 and 400 metres individual medley and 200 butterfly he achieved at the 1989 European Championships in Bonn.

Darnyi, who skipped the 1991 European Championships to concentrate on his Olympic preparations, has won the 200 and 400 individual medley at two Olympics, two World Championships and three European Championships — an astonishing record.

Gyorgy Zemplenyi, who organised the Hungarian team's lavish financial backing, disappeared after the Olympics and police say they want to question him in connection with \$7.5 million debts.

A power struggle for control of the Hungarian Swimming Federation followed but this has been resolved and officials say sponsors have begun to put money into the sport again.

However, Norbert Rozsa, 100 metres breaststroke world champion and double Olympic silver medallist, has left Hungary to start a new life in Australia, where he has just received permanent residence status.

Florida-raised Lopez-Zubero defends his 100 and 200 metres backstroke titles after becoming a hero in Spain by winning the nation's first Olympic swimming gold in the 200 backstroke in Barcelona.

An error to be sure, but only an expert would realize it.

The bidding is interesting. Since

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAHNNAH HIRSCH
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THE MISTAKE OF AN EXPERT

Both vulnerable South deals.

NORTH

* K 3

* A 6

* K 10 9 7 4

* 10 5 3

WEST

* A 10 8 4

* 9 7 6 2

* Q 10 7 2

* 5 4

* J 5

* Q 6 2

* A 9 9

* K 8 6 2

SOUTH

* Q J 5

* K J 9 8 3

* A 8

* Q 7 4

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

3 NT Pass Pass Pass

a three-diamond bid by North will show a weaker hand with better diamonds. North improvised by manufacturing a heart raise on a doubleton. Instead of handing partner, South wisely rebid three no trump, leaving partner the option of correcting to four hearts.

West started a low spade dummy's king winning. Declared led a low diamond and inserted the eight. In with the jack of diamonds, West found the killing shift to the nine of clubs. East won the king and, after mentally tossing a coin to decide which black suit to return, reverted to a spade. Declarer quickly wrapped up nine tricks.

East was quick to assume the blame for not reading partner's shift correctly. However, West exonerated partner completely, lamenting all the guilt because of a poor lead. The one in hand is a star player than he himself. For example, a world champion berated himself for going wrong on this hand. Your job is to find the culprit and the error.

The bidding is interesting. Since

Bridge experts have their own impossible dream perfection. While they admit it is probably unattainable, it is probably unattainable.

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Drum taps set to run in Melbourne cup

MELBOURNE (AFP) — Dual Ascot Gold Cup winner Drum Taps looks set to run in Australia's most prestigious horse race, the Melbourne Cup — if a quarantine wrangle can be sorted out.

Drums Taps' English trainer, William Hastings-Bass, has told the race organisers, Victoria Racing Club (VRC), that his only condition for bringing his classy stayer to Australia is a quarantine station with trackwork facilities.

Northern hemisphere cup runners have to spend three weeks in quarantine overseas and two weeks in Australia before they are allowed to race in the 2,000 million dollar (\$1.38 million) 3200 metre (2 miles) Melbourne Cup at Flemington on Nov. 2.

VRC racing manager Les Benton will meet representatives of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service Thursday at the nominated quarantine station, the Sandown racecourse here.

"I have every reason to believe that Sandown will be allowed to operate as a private quarantine station," said Benton Tuesday.

Drum Taps is the equal top weight for the Melbourne Cup with Naturalism, Subzero and Vandracer on 58.5kg (nine stone) for this year's race.

Benton said Hastings-Bass wanted to make a short "hit-and-run" visit with Drum Taps and did not want the seven-year-old galloper to have a lead-up run before the Melbourne Cup.

"Apparently the hit-and-run visit will be less demanding on the horse," said Benton, who lobbied British trainers for cup entries during a promotional visit there this month.

The Sandown facility will be able to stable four horses, and trainers will have free use of his political and football affairs.

Mr. Bourges said: "Questions of personality should not influence the destiny of OM, that's why I think certain people should think things over.... and stand aside."

Bernard Tapie must appreciate the situation and realise that, after leading OM to the top, he should make sure no more confusion is possible between his career, in politics or business, and the management of his club."

European and French champions Marseille face disgrace over an alleged attempt to rig a crucial league match last season against Valenciennes. They could be thrown out of European Cup competition if found guilty.

Young seeks return to winning ways

ROMA (R) — American Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion Kevin Young seeks an immediate return to winning ways when the Alpine resort of Sestriere plays host to some of the world's top athletes Wednesday.

Young, previously unbeaten in 26 successive races and red-hot favourite to win gold at next month's World Championships, suffered a shock defeat at the hands of Zambian world champion Samuel Matte in the London Grand Prix last Friday.

There is an extra incentive for Young since he will drive down the mountain in a Ferrari 348 sports car, valued at \$125,000, if he can better the world record of 46.78 seconds he set as he stormed to Olympic gold in Barcelona last year.

Pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of Ukraine, for whom breaking world records is second nature,

Peking's Olympic bid tiring — Sydney

SYDNEY (Agencies) — Peking's bid for the 2000 Olympics Games is losing steam, its main rival Sydney said Tuesday.

Chinese organisers, meanwhile, admitted they were preparing for the possibility of losing.

"We have done our utmost but we have to prepare ourselves for two possible outcomes," Chen Xitong, head of the Peking bid committee, was quoted as saying Monday by the official Xinhua News Agency.

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ourselves into a false sense of security."

The House of Representatives voted by 287 votes to 99 Monday to call on the IOC to reject Peking because of massive human rights violations.

Sydney is the acknowledged front-runner for hosting the 2000 games after an IOC inquiry report issued this month found no faults with the city's proposal.

Other candidates are Berlin, Brasilia, Istanbul and Manchester.

The IOC will decide on the host in Monte Carlo on Sept. 23.

Peking's Olympic organisers later hit back at the U.S. vote.

Peking 2000 Olympic Games Bid Committee (BOBICO) spokesman Xu Xia said that the Chinese capital's bid was in keeping with IOC principles

Turkish minister sees visit to Jordan as highly positive

Cetin postpones visit to Israel, hopes for early solution to Mideast conflict

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin Tuesday wound up a three-day visit to Jordan with a highly positive assessment of Jordanian-Turkish relations and identical viewpoints on several regional and international political issues.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Cetin also announced that he had postponed a visit to Israel because of the "developments on the Israeli-Lebanese border," but refused to characterise the postponement as a signal of Turkish criticism of Israel for its three-day assault on its northern neighbour.

"We prefer not to let the actual tension overshadow this visit and I decided to postpone my visit to a more favourable time when the hostilities would come to an end," Mr. Cetin said.

"It is not a cancellation... it is not a protest, it is just postponed," Mr. Cetin said.

Mr. Cetin condemned the escalation of hostilities on the Israeli-Lebanese front, saying they undermined the Middle East peace process.

"We condemn the recent operations that have caused casualties on the civilian population and we appeal for an immediate cessation of hostilities," he said.

"Such massive use of force... can lead to further escalation and does harm the peace process, especially at a period when a new momentum is being sought," he said.

Mr. Cetin, the first Turkish foreign minister to pay an official visit to Jordan since 1980, described as "very fruitful" his talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Prime Minister Abdal Salam Majali, who is also foreign minister, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan and Planning Minister Ziad Fariz.

"I also witnessed that there is a mutual determination and the political will to further strengthen our bilateral relations in all fields," he said.

Topics discussed in the talks, he said, included the Middle East peace process, the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia in the former Soviet



Hikmet Cetin

to Israel, where he was scheduled to arrive late Tuesday.

Mr. Cetin said Turkey believed that Jerusalem should be an essential part of any Middle East peace settlement.

Noting that Jerusalem is highly to the three monotheistic religions, he said the Holy City "could not be monopolised by anyone."

"We cannot reach lasting peace without including Jerusalem," he said, adding that the timing of including the status of the Holy City in the peace negotiations was not important as long as it is part of the agenda and will be discussed at one point or another in the talks.

The Turkish foreign minister said his country, an active participant in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process, stood ready to contribute to the negotiations, but no specific role or project had yet been defined for Turkey.

He said Turkey was ready to offer its water resources to help resolve the regional crisis over water provided "there is someone who will invest" in developing them.

According to Mr. Cetin, Turkey and Syria are hoping to conclude an agreement before the end of the year on water flowing down from Turkey.

Iraq, which is also dependent on the downstream water, will not be a party to the accord, but is welcome to a tripartite meeting on the issue, he said.

In the meantime, Iraq will continue to get "a certain percentage" of water that reaches Syria and flowing down to Iraqi territory, he added.

Mr. Cetin expressed confidence that Ankara and Baghdad could work out an agreement on transit fee for Iraqi oil flowing through Iraqi pipelines running through Turkish territory to the Mediterranean if the Iraqi management of the Azeri territories occupied by Armenia.

During his talks with Mr. Fariz, Mr. Cetin said, the two sides agreed to work an agreement on the promotion of protection of investments in addition to examining the possibilities of establishing joint ventures in third countries, particularly in the republics of the former Soviet Union in Central Asia and Caucasus.

Mr. Cetin, who visited the Jordan Valley as well as the Beqaa refugee camp, called for "more international attention and aid" for Palestinian refugees.

Answering questions at the press conference, Mr. Cetin implicitly criticised Israel as well as resistance groups in south Lebanon for starting the latest round of hostilities.

Mr. Cetin denied reports that Israel had started processing Iraqi oil left in the pipeline when it was closed.

The pipelines were closed by Turkey immediately after the U.N. Security Council imposed a trade embargo on Iraq following the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

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Yeltsin under fire over rouble

Combined agency dispatches

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin faced biting criticism Tuesday over the government's chaotic reform of the rouble, as people clogged bank branches to exchange their worthless banknotes.

Mr. Yeltsin's political rival, Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, stepped up efforts to capitalise on anger over the central bank's invalidation of old rouble notes. He told regional economic managers the entire measure should be repealed. A day earlier, he demanded that it just be revised.

"The people have been given a shock by the actions of the central bank and the cabinet," Mr. Khasbulatov said, the Interfax news

agency reported. "We have to recognise these as illegal and think about whether it would be right for the central bank to repeat this decision in next few days."

Central Bank Chairman Viktor Gerashchenko joined the finger-pointing, telling the Associated Press that Mr. Yeltsin knew about the surprise step "in general terms" before it was announced Saturday.

"The central bank cannot make decisions to introduce a national currency without the agreement of the highest leadership," Mr. Gerashchenko said.

Mr. Gerashchenko is under investigation by Russia's chief prosecutor, Valentin Stepankov, for allegedly "depriving Russians of their constitutional right to use

and possess money."

On Monday, billions of pre-1993 rouble notes became invalid. Citizens could exchange only 35,000 rubles (\$35) in cash, with amounts above that credited to bank deposits. The action was designed to stem inflation and nullify roubles outside Russia's control in other former Soviet republics.

The measure seemed to hit hardest at pensioners and any Russians who have hoarded roubles. Tensions remained high in Moscow as people pushed and shoved in line at bank branches to exchange their old roubles.

At a train station, private traders were paying \$1 for 1,300 old roubles, saying privately that they have been able to circumvent the limit on cash exchanges.

Israelis raze Lebanese villages

(Continued from page 1)

shelling north of the zone to thwart Katyusha rocket attacks.

"It's hell there," said Mohammad Abu Zeid, 65, who with his wife, 11 children and three goats just escaped on foot during a bombardment of Jarjouh village in Iqlim Al Toufah, a smoke-covered bastion of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God).

"We held on for two days but we have a limit and that was it. No one helped us. No one is giving us food," he said in nearby Houmneim village. "When things calm down we will return."

He said the only people who remained in Jarjouh were five villagers, trapped because they were too old or poor to leave.

Israeli military source said the "operation had already gone through three planned phases since it was launched Sunday morning:

— Air strikes on 10 Hezbollah and Palestinian "bases."

— Air strikes on another 39 bases.

— Heavy artillery fire to force an exodus from southern Lebanon. Naval blockade of ports of Tyre and Sidon.

The fourth phase, begun Tuesday, was to target directly the villages, the sources said.

The Jerusalem Post reported that artillery dug in the hills of the "security zone" was firing to destroy villages in southern Lebanon to prevent guerrillas using

them as cover and launching rockets.

"Until now we have fired around the villages to scare the residents away," a lieutenant identified as "S" told the Post from artillery position atop Mount Hermon on Monday.

"Tonight we are firing to destroy these places to rubble," the lieutenant and position commander said.

Orders came every few minutes to fire another 43-kilo shell at a "hostile village about 25 kilometres away," the Post said.

According to military sources more than 5,000 shells have been fired into Lebanon since Sunday morning.

Israeli gunboats also blasted the coastline between Sidon and the port of the Tyre further south, including an area near a Syrian intelligence post.

Israeli warplanes also carried out four raids on the southern sector of the Bekaa Valley, killing a Hezbollah fighter, an elderly man and a seven-year-old girl.

Lebanese rescue workers said Tuesday's toll was higher as they could not reach many villages because of the firing.

In the shell-blasted village of Kfar Hatta, residents flew white sheets as flags of surrender from houses while Red Cross workers tried to bring a truck-load of supplies into the area.

Fires raged in homes and across hillsides facing the Israeli zone as hundreds of packed cars

Arabs outraged over Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

jammed the main highway north to Beirut and families hid in alleyways near the battle zones.

Israel's militia allies on Monday ordered residents of 12 more villages deeper in Lebanon to evacuate by noon (0900 GMT) as Israeli big guns reached beyond the areas already pounded.

The usually bustling market town of Nabatiyeh looked like a virtual ghost town on Tuesday. Virtually all its 15,000 people had fled. Only ambulances sped through its empty streets.

At least 20 shells a minute were hammering the town and surrounding area as Israeli warplanes firing screamed down on nearby villages trying to end the aggression.

Israel Monday warned residents of South Lebanon to leave and army radio said up to 200,000 Lebanese had fled their homes since the operation began.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, visiting the Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona, would not predict how long the battle would continue.

"We are not talking about weeks or months," Mr. Peres told reporters. "We must generate the required pressure and it is being applied."

Israel Radio said on Tuesday more artillery, armoured personnel carriers and heavy engineering equipment had been moving towards Lebanon since Monday afternoon, continuing a buildup that has gone on for three weeks.

They face among Syrian units stationed in Lebanon..."

"Those who are eager to implement aggressive resolutions against Iraq will today bury their heads in the sand and turn a blind eye to the aggression against Lebanon," the paper said.

"Will the Security Council meet within hours... to issue resolutions against Israel?" it asked. "Will Tomahawk and cruise missile units be mobilised to confront the Israeli aggression?"

Tehran Radio quoted President Hashemi Rafsanjani as criticising the international community for not intervening.

"Unfortunately, responsible international organisations and the arrogant powers who assert that they are the guardians of international standards are encouraging them (Israelis) with their silence, which is a sign of approval," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

Hamid Al Gabid, secretary general of the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference, said in a statement that he "condemns vigorously these

actions of the United States and its allies."

"Syria has been a mere spectator" of the offensive, charged Babel newspaper.

It said Syria's announcement

Monday that its anti-aircraft guns had opened up against Israeli warplanes was only made "to

disturb the peace process."

In Israel, Mr. Rabin's spokesman said: "Our understanding is that (Mr. Christopher) is going to come as scheduled." But he refused to reveal any details of the conversation.

"The main purpose of the secretary's visit to the region will be to revive the talks and try to find a common denominator to encourage the parties to make progress in the negotiations."



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